

Carol Hanson. S+ER Product Manager. US DOE
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
PO Box 30307, M/S 025
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0707

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SEP 17 2001

Friday, September 07, 2001

Dear Ms. Hanson:

Re: Disposal of Waste

Since there is no such thing as safe disposal of radioactive waste, maybe we should be searching for safer alternatives. Nobody wants to see truckloads of dangerous contaminants brought in, dumped, and stored in their own backyards. Who's to say how much unseen future damage might be destined to happen.

Years ago, the desert-like terrain of Nevada was undoubtedly thought of as a vast wasteland. That is no longer the case. Las Vegas has become a super-spectacular oasis in a sea of sand. It is so economically valuable that I can't imagine the government taking a chance on losing the taxes that are being paid by this extraordinary man-made treasure. Las Vegas appears to me to be really special – at least to an unaffected outside observer – it's a gem. Even though I personally haven't been there for years, it brightens my life to know it exists!

Perhaps there could be an alternate plan. In order for the casinos of Las Vegas to protect themselves from a potentially devastating spill, wouldn't they be willing to donate a small % of their profits to plant 'wind farms' or 'solar panel farms' on the surrounding landscape – thereby making up for the decreased energy production caused by the elimination of nuclear reactors. Additionally, it would be a big step toward drawing public attention to this major national problem. If Las Vegas is promoting clean alternative energy production, it must be an idea worth considering. Perhaps, providing its own energy is a worthwhile idea. The money saved would be significant! Saving money is as good as making money!

That way, everyone could be happy – while a big step would be being taken toward focussing public awareness on the issue. If nobody likes that idea, how about depositing the cancer-causing waste in Texas? It's more desolate than Nevada! More wide open spaces. And poetic justice calls for it to go into the president's back yard.

Please do what you can to keep Las Vegas safe. Nuclear storage is not safe! Las Vegas is one of this country's most precious jewels. This is a perfect opportunity to revise President Bush's ill-advised energy policy. Help keep all citizens safe. Eliminating nuclear power eliminates any and all accompanying storage problems. I fully support the governor's intention to fight this action. I'm surprised truckers will haul it. Do they know how dangerous their jobs are?

Deeply concerned about this problem,



Penny Griffith
1000 W. South St. # 52B
Carlisle, PA 17013